HENRY GONZALES

Executive Director Chief Juvenile Probation Officer





For the past 35 years and counting, Henry Gonzales has dedicated his career to the field of juvenile justice. From the beginning as a volunteer mentor, to his current role as Executive Director and Chief Juvenile Probation Officer (CJPO) of Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, (HCJPD) Henry's professional life reflects decades of commitment to young people, families, and communities in contact with the juvenile justice system.

In addition to his role as Executive Director and CJPO, Henry serves as the Superintendent* of HCJPD's Excel Academy Charter School, the academic

institution serving residents of the department's pre- and post-adjudicated facilities, and the Education Transition Center, (ETC) a community-based campus for justice involved youth with a focus on vocational training, job placement, and supportive services.

An ardent proponent of juvenile justice transformation, Henry works closely with the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a partner in their Deep End Reform and Probation Transformation initiatives aimed at "transforming juvenile probation into a focused intervention that promotes personal growth, positive behavior change, and long-term success for youth who pose significant risks for serious offending." - Annie E. Casey

As a member of Youth Correctional Leaders for Justice, Henry collaborates with current and former youth correctional administrators to help shift juvenile justice culture toward embracing a vision focused on youth, family, and community-centered solutions as an alternative to incarceration and punitive sanction practices.

Henry serves on the Executive Steering Committee of My Brother's Keeper Houston (MBK). MBK Houston works on identifying pivotal, life-success milestones from a young person's path to adulthood while seeking to uncover roadblocks to success resulting from involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Henry serves on various boards and advisory committees including the University of Houston Downtown School of Public Service where he earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees and teaches in an adjunct capacity.